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DIPESH CHAKRABARTY 2022-06-06

THE PLANET DOES NOT RETURN OUR GAZE

NECROPOLITICS CAPITALISM, CLIMATE CHANGE, EARTH, PLANET, POSTCOLONIAL

Dipesh Chakrabarty: My trajectory is intrinsically linked to globalization: my interest in post-colonial issues is part of a global story. For example, India in the context of the 18th century was the last theater of conflict between the French and the British, who were fighting for the domination of a single empire. And it was the French who lost. When the British historian E.P. Thomson, while visiting India, observed that Indian Marxism was the same as English Marxism, a friend of mine replied: "If this is so, it is because the French general called Dupleix lost"

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the [nascent French] Indian empire and the English general called Clive won it [for the British], no more and no less. If India had become a French empire, everybody would have spoken the language of structuralism. You governed us, so we speak your language, but that has nothing to do with the world view that the French had."

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